

By Email

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Dear ██████████

Airspace Change Masterplan – Farnborough Airport

Thank you for ACOG's advice, received on 13th September, regarding the inclusion of a Farnborough airport airspace change proposal (ACP) in the masterplan development process.

We have discussed this with the DfT, as co-sponsors of airspace modernisation, and have agreed that the argument presented is logical and that including Farnborough will better enable them to realise benefits, particularly around the potential to climb higher, sooner (potentially releasing Controlled Airspace) as Gatwick and Heathrow procedures are modernised. Given the location of Farnborough and the potential interdependencies with other ACPs, this is more likely to occur as part of a coordinated masterplan.

The CAA Airspace Regulation Team will need to consider Farnborough's Statement of Need in this context. Should a Farnborough airport ACP be subsequently initiated it would need to be treated consistently with the other constituent masterplan ACPs. Farnborough would therefore be required to include a Design Principle in Stage 1 of the CAP1616 process as follows:

Subject to the overriding design principle of maintaining a high standard of safety, the highest priority principle of this airspace change that cannot be discounted is that it accords with the CAA's published Airspace Modernisation Strategy (CAP 1711) and any current or future plans associated with it.

As with other constituent ACPs, the CAA Airspace Regulation Team will also assess whether the proposal aligns with the AMS and the masterplan at future CAP1616 gateway assessments.

We will publish ACOG's advice and our response in due course.

Best Regards

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Head of Airspace Modernisation